

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for predicting service level in a utility computing environment having a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, the method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

creating a resource profile corresponding to a subset of computing resources
allocated according to a service level agreement;

loading a workload profile representing a demand profile for an enterprise; ~~and~~

simulating the processing of the workload profile using the resource profile to

produce a service level result, wherein the resource profile ~~resource~~ subset

is modified during the simulation according to the service level agreement;

and

generating a new service agreement in the event the resource profile cannot

process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to

the service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will

process the workload profile at the expected service level.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

comparing the service level result to the service level agreement; and

signaling whether the resource profile will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subset of computing resources includes allocated processing resources and memory resources for a client account.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the service level agreement includes a base resource allocation, a maximum resource allocation, resource costs, and rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the simulation step is scheduled to run automatically at an off-peak time.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining a cost associated with meeting the modified service level agreement.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the resource profile includes a communication bandwidth allocation.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein the simulating ~~step~~ is based upon a result of the comparison ~~step~~.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation step incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile includes information corresponding to one or both of prioritization of resources and importance of specific resources.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile is loaded from a configuration file.

13. (Currently amended) A system for simulating service in a utility computing environment having a service level agreement to service the demands of an enterprise using a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, comprising:

an allocated subset of the set of computing resources;

logic for loading a workload profile representing a hypothetical demand profile
for a client account;

logic for simulating processing of the workload profile, wherein the workload profile is based upon actual, measured data, using the allocated subset of the set of available computing resources to produce a service level result; ~~and~~

logic for modifying the allocated subset of the available computing resources based upon the service level result; and

logic for generating a new service agreement in the event a simulation produced by the simulation logic cannot process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will process the workload profile at the expected service level.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

logic for comparing the service level result to a service level agreement; and

logic for signaling whether or not a result of produced by the simulated processing will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the ~~workload~~ resource profile comprises:

processing resources; and

memory resources.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the ~~workload~~ resource profile further comprises:

a base resource allocation;

a maximum resource allocation;

resource costs; and

rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the ~~set-of-workload~~ resource profile ~~also~~ further comprises communication bandwidth.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising logic for comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein a simulation produced by the simulation logic is based upon a result of the comparison step.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation logic incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.

21. (Currently amended) A computer program product for predicting service level compliance in a utility computing environment having a service level agreement to service the demands of an enterprise using a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, comprising:

a memory,

a resource list, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, detailing a set of available computing resources;

an allocated resource list, stored on the memory, detailing an allocated subset of the set of available computing resources;

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for creating a computer resource profile based upon the allocated subset of the set of available computing resources;

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for loading a workload profile representing a hypothetical demand profile for a client account;

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for simulating the processing of the workload profile using the computer resource profile to produce a service level result;

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for comparing the service level result to a service level agreement; and

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for signaling whether the computing resource profile will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement; and

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for generating a new service agreement in the event the computing resource profile cannot process the workload profile at the expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will process the workload profile at the expected service level.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the computing resource profile comprises:

processing resources; and
memory resources.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the computing resource profile further comprises:

a base resource allocation;
a maximum resource allocation;
resource costs; and
rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the computing resource profile also comprises a communication bandwidth allocation.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21, further comprising logic for comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein a simulation produced by the simulation logic is based upon a result of the comparison step.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation logic incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.